

OCTOBER

The Spark Gap

BOOK V VOL X

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

O.K., the month of October is upon us and it's Convention time down in Hartford, Ct, Flea Market time on October 13th at the Heathkit parking lot and in between these two activities is the Simulated Emergency Test. It promises to be a busy month, and, needless to say, your participation will be of a great help to make these things work out properly. More on this further into the newsletter.

The executive committee has had two or three meetings already to plan activities for the coming year and we plan to have more speakers and films for you as we get into the season.

Your editor this month, due to a quirk of fate, is WALTBY. Nels, KLUR, in addition to all his other work, got the Spark Gap together and dropped it off at my qth so I could get it printed. The only problem is that I never got it and it apparently is lost. So, in the full spirit of this club, I am putting together this rather make-shift edition to keep you informed of what is going on. I hope it meets your approval.

Dues Dues Dues...

At the meeting of September 20th we had a budget meeting. Due to the increased cost of properly running the club, it was voted to increase the dues from \$5.00 to \$8.00 and the family memberships would remain at \$2.00 per member. With the 63/03 two meter repeater to maintain, increased mailing costs, not to mention the other incidentals that have cost the club more money, the vote justified the club members confidence in the way we are trying to run things. Anyway, the dues

DUES, DUES, DUES.....CONT'D

is now due. You can make out your checks or money orders to the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society and mail them to Jim Hatherley, WALTBY 46 Hobson St., Brighton, Ma. 02135. Your early remittance will be appreciated. For the members who joined the club from May 1979 on, you will automatically be carried on the books until August 31, 1980.



ACTIVITIES

The National Simulated Emergency Test will occur on the weekend of October 6-7 this year. Our club has the unique privilege of hosting the Boston Chapter American Red Cross to the 63/03 machine. Traffic from other Red Cross chapters will come into this machine for the Boston HQ. In addition, our club will also have its own exercise as we have done in years past. We would like to have a good showing of participants and show that we can handle these emergencies whenever and wherever they may arise. Our test will probably occur on Oct. 6 but to be sure, call some of the other members for confirmation. If you recall the Blizzard of '78' and the recent hurricanes David and Frederic, you know that we should all be ready to dig in and get the job done, so practice makes perfect fellows.

CLEARING THE AIR

In the last edition we printed up a current list of the members and their pertinent info. Since some of you may have upgraded, changed your callsign, have a new address, or what have you. If your name and info needs to be revised, please notify Sol Dinman, K1PDX of the changes.

Pete Spotts, N1ABS, moved to Chicago and as a result his Spark Gap was returned to us as the address was lacking something. He lives in Oak Park, Ill. 60302 at 530 Washington St. Pete called me to find out what happened to his copy of the newsletter. Sorry Pete, they are now on their way. Pete is now a full reporter for the Christian Science Monitor in the Chicago area. He and Cathy like their new challenge.

Capt. John Obrien, K1BDE, is back to the west coast for another cruise on his super-tanker. He hopes to be back here in time for the Natick Mall. John has come to be a very efficient traffic handler on the novice nets. Bon Voyage John.

education corner



Our Novice classes have started with Dave Curry, K1TK as instructor. The class meets on Wednesday evenings in the basement of the club. If you know of anyone wishing to join the classes, please let them know about them.

Hopefully we would like to conduct further classes for general but so far we have no one who is willing to volunteer to teach this one so it is being shelved until we can get someone to teach. If interested, call Dave Curry.

CHUCKLE KORN-LR

Seems a four engine plane was having a bit of trouble when one of its engines stopped. The captain announced that the plane could still fly on three engines and not to worry about the situation. Shortly thereafter, two of the remaining engines conked out, leaving only one engine running. The captain walked out of the pilots compartment with a parachute strapped on his back and calmly announced, "Don't worry about a thing folks, I'm going down to get help." (VFW magazine)

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Hearabouts....

As previously mentioned, Pete Spotts, N1ABS has moved to Chicago, or Oak Park. Anyway, Dick Magnanti, WB1BUQ, has gone out to Indiana on a new job and got on the local repeater and would you believe that he and Pete had a qso. Guess that repeater had a pretty good range. They do plan to have an eyeball out there.

Carl Levine, WB1ECK now has his extra class ticket. Great work Carl and hearty congrats.

Propagation has been improving and anyone wishing to try for his DXCC will find conditions to his liking. Ten meters has had some good openings to Japan and the Far East recently. Are you working this band? It might pay off to visit it.

Many of you may have received a copy of the CROSSBANDER in the mail recently. This is a new publication from the Section Communications Mgr, Rick Beebe, K1PAD. If you haven't subscribed to it yet, send a check for 2.00 to Rick. You will find his address is in the beginning pages of the QST. This newsletter will try to keep you current of things within the Eastern Mass. section. It deserves our support

HEARABOUTS.....CONT'D.

Mort Cohan, WB2SBW, has finally bought a home in Medfield, Ma. and will be getting on the low bands shortly.

Joe McGrath, WA1JIR, is also in the process of putting up a tower at his Hopkinton QTH.

Wing Choy, KALBHZ, has a set of Drake C line twin and a vertical antenna.

STATION ACTIVITIES

Plans are in the works to move our radio room down to the basement where everything in the club will be more consolidated. We will use the room to the right as you come down the basement stairway. Seems as though the town has more need for this room for some other agency and we really are better off down in the basement area anyway. C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM and Dick Parei, WA1ZLQ, are supplying the know how in the rebuilding of our station.

During the moving process, new antenna lines will be brought down and in time it should be a good operation area as up in the club room, the noise from the radio gear had a tendency to disturb others on the same floor.

It Seems to Me...

I have always been an optimist by nature and when Nels, K1UR's original copy of this edition of the Spark Gap got lost, it gave me the opportunity to get back in the editors seat, (though only temporarily), and whack out an issue of the Gap.

Nels has been doing a creditable job as the editor of this newsletter but one thing that he fails to mention, and it is vitally important to you having a paper worthy of its being, and that is your contributions to the Spark Gap. To sit down month after month and come up with a good newsletter is pretty hard when it is all coming from the one person. So, how about getting off your butts and supplying us with something of interest, an interesting experience, qso, or just an everyday occurrence not related to radio.

What DX contacts have you made, how are you finding the propagation, would this new contraption of an experimental antenna be of use to some other amateur in the club? Anything like this makes good copy but if K1UR never receives it from you, how can he know what to print? Come on and let's give him the helping hand he deserves. We could also use some reports from the station committee, the educational committee and other chairpeople in the club. What your

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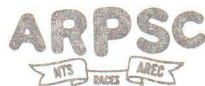


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THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, P.C.C. RULES & REGULATIONS CHANGES, AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES (TYPEWRITTEN IF POSSIBLE) TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OR TO THE CLUB ADDRESS.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS \$5. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 - JUNE 30. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
324 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS. 02161



IT SEEMS TO ME.....CONT'D

aims are, what help you may need and in general, inform the club so they will be more knowledgeable.

Everyone is busy doing their thing but when you really think about it, they aren't all that busy that they can't contribute a little something to the club's newsletter. So, let's hear from you.

With SET coming up I can't help but think of the recent emergencies that arose from hurricanes David and Frederic. As usual, the hams were right there but there were others who tried to help by sending messages into and out of the stricken areas. However, they had little or no knowledge as to how to originate a piece of formal traffic and as a result, tied up the nets as someone else had to do it for them when they could have been better spending the time passing the message.

Here at the Wellesley Club we are fortunate as we do run the Natick Mall Message Fair once a year and a lot of us have originated and sent formal traffic on the traffic nets. We still have some who are new to this phase of amateur radio and I would like to suggest that if you would like to get involved, we do have some slow speed cw traffic nets for the novices and phone nets for those who prefer that mode. Once you have an idea of originating and passing traffic, then you could be a great help should an emergency

IT SEEMS TO ME.....CONT'D

arise. Who knows, you might even end up getting a kick out of it. I know I did.

I would like to thank Tom Burton, K1DHM, for his taking time to write us about his novice class experience, which appeared in the last issue. In today's rat race, it is nice to take a moment out of it to reflect the nice things that happen to us.

I guess I had better get off this soap box and get on with this newsletter but these things were on my mind and I thought I would air them with you. See you at the next meeting. 73, de Jim Hatherley, W1TBY

Wonder Abouts...

Have you ever looked over the club roster and begin to think about, "Gee, I wonder what Al Graf, W1OQP is doing these days." or what about Mauricio Puente, W1DZX etc.

The above logo was created just for this very thing and we invite you to submit your own "Wonderabouts" or tell us how some of these people who seldom make to the meetings are making out. I'm sure the entire club would benefit from it.

I often wonder about WE/ARY and her super journalistic qualities who has gone into the woodwork. Where are you WE/ARY?

EVENTS

October 6/7 SET

October 13: Wellesley Flea Market at the Heathkit parking lot on Route 9 in Wellesley from 9 AM to closing.

October 27: Quannapowitt Radio Association annual auction at the Knights of Columbus hall, Sandborn St., Reading, Ma. Doors open at 10, auction starts at 11 AM. Talk in on 146.52.

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Finally, thanks for sticking by me while I rambled along. Next issue will be done by our regular editor, Nels Anderson, K1UR.
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MEETINGS THIS MONTH: —

October 4 and 18 at 7:30 PM

Intermediate Bldg., Wellesley Hills, Mass.

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WELLESLEY
AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY

324 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts 02181

FIRST CLASS MAIL

MEMBER

